April 8, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution Email

FROM: Christine Caruso Magee
                                       Configuration Manager, NCEP Central Operations

SUBJECT: Scheduled Operational Changes and Upgrades for
                                       CPC, OPC, and WPC

Climate Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of April 11, 2016:

RFC #623 – VWT v2.0 - The Java front-end of CPC's VWT (Verification Web
Tool) has been removed. The backend servlet is now called by an AJAX request,
and the response is plotted using a Javascript plotting package. This will
eliminate all the issues end-users are having with getting the applet to load and
run. To be implemented on April 11 at 1400Z.

The following RFCs are in progress or have been delayed:

RFC #605 – Africa_RFE v1.0.0 – Implement into operations a new process called
the Africa RFC (Rainfall Estimator) for International Desk monitoring activities. Was
to be implemented on March 21 at 1600Z; implementation began on March 30 due
to personnel being unavailable to implement. This was further postponed due to
issues in having output synced to the correct location, so the new completion date
is April 14.

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of April 11, 2016 may
affect CPC:

RFC #1848 - Limit the use of cron on operational CPC CF systems to
operational accounts only. CPC has requested this to prevent jobs from being

set up to run for test accounts on operational systems. To be implemented on April 13 at 1400Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect CPC:

RFC #1756 - NetCDF4-Python v4-1.2.1 - IBM will install the Python NetCDF4 software on Luna and Surge in /gpfs/hps/usrx/local/prod. This software reads and writes NetCDF files. Implementation began on March 7 at 1600Z; was to be completed by March 21 but IBM has found they need to install HDF5 and NetCDF first on the Crays in order to properly install this software, so the new completion date for this RFC is April 20.

Ocean Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

RFC #617 – Pointed scripts and NMAP2 to NCO's operational feed of ASCAT-A data. Stopped pulling the identical 'test' version of the data from NESDIS directly. Implemented on April 7 at 1230Z.

The following will be implemented the week of April 11, 2016:

RFC #618 – fos_to_opcweb.pl v2016.04.11 – Print out a few more variables in script logs to ease troubleshooting efforts. To be implemented on April 11 at 1130Z.

RFC #619 – Reference_Publications.shtml v2016.04.11 - The Reference Publications page on the OPC website is being updated to add a link per OPC management request. To be implemented on April 11 at 1130Z.

RFC #620 – prodmon.php v2016.04.11 – Update the OPC product monitor to fix minor typos in product names. This page is used by forecast staff to ensure deadlines are not missed. To be implemented on April 11 at 1130Z.

RFC #621 – datatype.tbl v16.04.11, grid_cat.tbl v16.04.11 - Point GFSp back to the NCO parallel version of the GFS. This adds the 0.5 deg and 35 km tiles to the para. When the para ends, another RFC will be needed to turn it off. To be implemented on April 11 at 1130Z.

RFC #622 – make_send_xml.pl v16.04.11 - Modify 'make_send_xml.pl' to use the site and forecaster command line arguments for the vgf2xml gempak utility. To be implemented on April 11 at 1330Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

None

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of April 11, 2016 may affect OPC:

RFC #1841 – Update the Java package to java-1.7.0-ibm for OPC's pacreg, atlhs, pachs, outlook, bkup, and bkup3 workstations. To be implemented on April 11 at 1400Z.

RFC #4497 (OPSnet) – Grant access from IDP to the NWSTG HFFAX system using FTPPUSH. To be implemented on April 11 at 1400Z.

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect OPC:

None

The following NCO RFCs, which may affect OPC, were approved with an implementation date TBD:

RFC #1357 – RTOFS global v1.1.0 – Major upgrade of the Global RTOFS model. See the TIN at: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/notification/tin15-36global-rtofsaaa.htm for details. This was advertised as having an October 6 implementation date but this implementation is being postponed due to a delay in the Navy's HYCOM model upgrade. Once the HYCOM upgrade is implemented, the Global RTOFS will be scheduled for implementation. The Navy hopes to upgrade HYCOM in FY16Q3. Notification will be given in advance so users may prepare for any changes which may affect them. This upgrade of the Global RTOFS was approved by the NCEP Director.

Weather Prediction Center

The following accelerated items were implemented this past week:

None

The following will be implemented the week of April 11, 2016:

RFC #624 - Implement three scripts on the nppu and nppu3 accounts to allow for creation of prototype excessive rainfall forecasts and transmission of these forecasts to WPC's intranet. This supports an eventual operational change to this product. To be implemented on April 11 at 1700Z.

RFC #625 - The following medium range scripts including the WPC masterblender for Max/Min T and HPCGuide production scripts will be modified to use the EMC 2.5km NAEFS_NDGD products instead of WPC's Downscaled NAEFS:

conus_tempblender.ksh
send_medr5km_dewpt
send_medr5km_cld
send_medr5km_wind

To be implemented on April 12 at 1200Z.

The following RFCs are in progress:

None

The following NCO RFCs to be implemented the week of April 11, 2016 may affect WPC:

None

The following NCO RFCs are in progress and may affect WPC:

None

Please note that security-related RFCs are never listed in the RFC memo.

---- OPERATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS ----

The CPC/OPC/WPC Configuration Management documents are available at
https://sites.google.com/a/noaa.gov/nws-ncep-nco-cm/.

Please review these documents if you have questions prior to submitting
changes for CPC/OPC/WPC configurable items.